58

A Particular

RELATION

OF THE

Great Victory obtained by the Proteſtants in *LONDON-DERRY*: And the taking of the Duke of *Berwick* Priſoner.

To which is added,

An Account of the *Engliſh* Courage of *Robert Coſton*, Maſter of a ſmall Veſſel, that Engaged two *French* Privateers. With the Particular of that ACTION.

Licenſed and Entred according to Order.

MAjor-General *Kirk*, with the Succours for *Ireland* under his Command, ſet Sail from *Liverpool* for *London-Derry* the 21ſt. Inſtant, the Wind at E. N. E. but the Wind vering more Northerly, they were upon the 24th. forced back to a place, called *High Lake*, where they waited for a fair Wind.

On Friday Night arrived at *Cheſter* an Eminent Officer of the Garriſon of *London-Derry*, with an Expreſs to His Majeſty from the Proteſtants in that place. In his Paſſage he went on Board Major-General *Kirk*, to whom he gave a full Account of the Condition of the Garriſon, and of the lateſt Actions on both ſides, which according to the beſt and trueſt Relations, are as follow.

That the *Iriſh* and *French* Officers being extreamly Zealous in the Service, and the Emulation for Honour between both Parties being no leſs, they have during the time of the Siege been hotly forward and valorous in expoſing their Perſons; by which unlucky Conteſt of theirs, they have loſt a conſiderable Number of experienced and good Officers. So that it is certain the Flower of their Army is in a manner quite deſtroyed.

As to Particulars, it is credibly Reported, That having for ſome days play'd their Morters, charg'd with ſmall Bombs, into the City, though with very little damage to the Beſieged, the Beſiegers were drawn into a Fatal Inconvenience by the Policy of the Commanders of the Garriſon. For the Governours being informed by their Spies, that the Enemy were aſſured of the great Miſchief they had done the Town, to confirm them in that belief, and to encourage them to make an Aſſault, in purſuance of the Advantage which they thought they had got, ordered all the Straw and combuſtible ſtuff that could be ſpared in the Town, to be brought to the Walls, and ſo placed, as not to endanger the Houſes when ſet on fire. They alſo farther ordered all the Stones, which were before the Pavements of the Streets, to be lodg'd upon the Walls, together with a ſufficient quantity of great and ſmall Shot, and other Warlike Preparations proper to repel a General Aſſault, and that all Perſons ſhould be in a readineſs upon the Approach of the Enemy.

In the mean time the Beſiegers believing their Bombs had taken good Effect, continued throwing them, in hopes of further Execution. On the other ſide, the Proteſtants ſet all their Combuſtible Matter on fire, which raiſed a great Flame, and not only heightned the Conceit of the Beſiegers, as done by their Bombs, but, as the Wind then ſate, drave the Smoak into the Camp of the Beſiegers. However, notwithſtanding that diſadvantage, ſo confident they were of the ſucceſs of their Bombs, that they advanced to the Walls, and with as great Fury as they were numerous, began the Aſſault. But to their Aſtoniſhment and Confuſion, they were received with ſuch an unexpected Bravery, that ſeveral hundreds of their beſt Men were kill'd in Scaling the Walls; which was ſuch an Encouragement to the Beſieged, that at the ſame time Sallying out of the Garriſon, they took, as is Reported, the Duke of *Berwick* Priſoner, 27 Inferiour Officers, 5 Field-Pieces, and one Morter, with ſeveral other Arms, and had the Plunder of the Field for ſeveral Miles, with a very inconſiderable Loſs to the Beſieged; who the two next days, that is to ſay, Tueſday and Wedneſday, the 14th. and 15th. Inſtant, made two briſk Sallies upon the rally'd *Iriſh*, whoſe Out-Guards lay at the diſtance of more than twice Cannon-ſhot from the City, waiting for the laſt Reinforcement which was ſent them from *Dublin*.

The Governours have ſent the Beſiegers a Meſſage

Meſſage by one of their own Party, who was taken Priſoner, That if they uſe any Violence or Cruelty to ſuch of the Proteſtants as may be under their Power, or ſhoot any more Bombs into the Town, they will not only hang up the Duke of *Berwick*, and ſuch other Priſoners as they have in their Cuſtody, but all that they ſhall afterwards take.

From *Dublin* we are inform'd, that there are ſtrange Diviſions in their pretended Parliament there; for that the *Iriſh* Members, perceiving the late King's Deſigns to ſubject them to the *French*, with all the Eloquence and Speeches they can make, oppoſe the Deſigns of their pretended Soveraign. So that it is hoped that in a ſhort time the Eyes of the very Papiſts in *Ireland* will be opened, to ſee the miſchievous Deſigns of their pretended King to enſlave them to a Foreign and Tyrannick Power.

An ACCOUNT *of the* Engliſh *Courage of* Robert Caſton, *Maſter of a Small Veſſel, that Engaged Two* French *Privateers. With the Particular of that Action.*

ON Thurſday, *May* the 16*th*. 1689. *Robert Caſton* of *Ipſwich*, Maſter of the *Richard's Advice* of *Ipſwich*, Burthen 400 Tuns, ſailed from *Newcaſtle* in Company of about 20 Sail more Loaden Colliers for *London*; and on Saturday following, off of *Foulneſs*, were met by two *Dunkirk* Pickeroons, one of 18 Guns, and 130 Men, the other of 4 Guns, and 55 Men, who, as the Priſoners confeſs, having made the Fleet, reſolved to attaque and carry this *Caſton*'s Ship, as being Admiral, promiſing themſelves all the reſt eaſily; and accordingly came up with her to Rights. *Caſton* had but 6 Guns, his Son, 11 Men, one Gentleman, and three Gentlewomen Paſſengers, and thro fear deſerted by his Conſort, (who promiſed to ſtand by him) all the reſt having no Guns, ſtood away as faſt as they could, and were by his Fight ſaved. The Pickeroons poured in their great Shot, and Boarded him three times with a great number of Men, and as often were beat off, and the Decks cleared by the *Engliſh* Small-ſhot and Courage; inſomuch, that the *French* ſeeing their Men drop ſo faſt, and very much diſabled in their Hulls, threw in two Granadoes into the Round-houſe, where the Maſter and two Men more were, but received little hurt, though they burnt and broke. The Engagement continued from One a Clock in the Afternoon until Four, when the *French* ſeeing no hopes of carrying her, ſheered off, leaving behind them on board the Collier, Swords, Cuttle-axes, Muskets, Piſtols, *&c.* as alſo two of their Men (now Priſoners) one a *Dane*, the other an *Oſtender*, and divers of their Men dead, and hanging on the Stays and Sides of the Ship, and bore away for *Dunkirk*, whence Advice is ſince come, that the biggeſt was ſo diſabled, that they had great difficulty to get her into Port, and preſently to take out her Guns, to keep her above Water; and that they loſt in the Fight the afore-mentioned two Priſoners, 20 kill'd out-right, and 12 wounded, ſome Mortally.

The Maſter received a ſlight Wound with a Splinter in his left Leg, and a ſmall Bruiſe on his Thigh, his Son a Wound in his Face, and two of his Men hurt, but none of them dangerous.

The Paſſenger had the Misfortune from the very firſt Broad-ſide, to have his Leg ſore broke and ſhatter'd, as not to be able to make any Defence; his Name was *Charles Rogers*, and taken on Board at *Newcaſtle*. So ſoon as the Fight was over, the Maſter in three hours got into *Yarmouth*, where he got the aſſiſtance of three the moſt able Chirurgeons could be had, to dreſs Mr. *Rogers* of his Wounds; but they were all of Opinion, the only means left in probability to ſave his Life, was to cut off his Leg, which they did, but he dyed ſoon after it, and was decently buried at *Yarmouth* at the Charge of the Maſter.

And the ſaid Mr. *Rogers* being a Stranger to the Maſter, and all in the Ship, it's thought fit to add to this Relation, as follows.

There was found in his Pocket a Certificate from one *Thomas Creed*, Dated the 30 of *December*, 1687. Teſtifying, That *Charles Rogers* ſerved him Eight Years very faithfully, *&c.* Alſo a Paſs, in the words following.

THeſe are to Certifie, That Charles Rogers, *a Gentleman, Riding in my Troop, in the Honourable Col.* Edward Villers *Regiment, at his own Requeſt is diſcharged the Service, in Order to his better Preferment. Given under my Hand the* 11th *of* May, 1689.

FR. ROGERS.

On Saturday laſt the Maſter brought his Ship up the River to *New Crane*, where ſhe now lies, and the two Priſoners on Board him.

The Honour this brave Maſter hath done to his Country and to his Profeſſion, will, no doubt, not only meet with a ſuitable Reward and Encouragement from the Government, but a grateful Acknowledgment from thoſe Owners and Freighters, who by his, and his handful of Men's Courage, had their Properties reſcued out of the hands of the Cowardly Enemies.

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